

**DEREE COLLEGE SYLLABUS FOR:
MU 3324 RESEARCHING AND WRITING ABOUT MUSIC**

3/0/3

**UK LEVEL: 5
UK CREDITS:15**

(Formerly: L4 MU 2124 RESEARCHING AND WRITING ABOUT MUSIC)
(Revised Fall 2022)

PREREQUISITES:	WP 1010 INTRODUCTION TO ACADEMIC WRITING WP 1111 INTEGRATED ACADEMIC WRITING AND ETHICS WP 1212 ACADEMIC WRITING AND RESEARCH
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CATALOG DESCRIPTION:	An introduction to the research skills and resources used to support academic work in music and the key concepts and approaches used in current musicology, closely integrated with an exploration of the many ways in which music can be discussed and written about.
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RATIONALE:	This course guides students in the development of the key skills they will need to successfully undertake academic projects in the field of music. It builds upon the general skills developed in the writing program (WP 1010, WP 1111, WP 1212) and combines this with skills developed in their first year of specific music studies. Students will develop a practical understanding of the practice of musicology and begin to become familiar with the different forms of specialized research and writing that they will encounter in the field.
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LEARNING OUTCOMES:	<p>After successfully completing this course students should be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Demonstrate their understanding of how to collect and select sources from research tools within musicology appropriate to a wide range of different musical styles and genres. 2. Infer conclusions from gathered sources, synthesizing ideas through academic writing. 3. Demonstrate the understanding of the conventions of scholarly writing, citation and academic integrity. 4. Identify key elements of a clear and effective writing style through the study of given texts and be able to use this information in order to reflect on their own writing abilities. 5. Develop a coherent well-supported research paper using a recursive process of researching and writing.
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METHOD OF TEACHING AND LEARNING:	<p>In congruence with the teaching and learning strategy of the college, the following tools are used:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • structured group discussion of example musicology texts; • structured and focused writing activities in which students produce, share, and submit writing individually and collaboratively; • short take-home writing exercises (preparatory work for the assessed coursework); • peer feedback workshops; • use of a learning management system (Blackboard) where instructors post lecture notes, assignment instructions, announcements and additional resources; • students are encouraged to make full use of their instructor’s office hours, where they can ask questions, see their assigned work results and/or go over lecture material; • support from the Student Academic Support Services (SASS), who offer one-to-one and group workshop sessions to support the development of academic and study skills.
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ASSESSMENT:	<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td colspan="2">Summative:</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;"> First assessment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing assignment (<i>1000 – 1,500 words</i>) in the form of small writing projects in a variety of different styles (and on a range of different musical topics). Submission of successive drafts and a critical reflection of </td> <td style="width: 40%; text-align: center; vertical-align: top;">30%</td> </tr> </table>	Summative:		First assessment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing assignment (<i>1000 – 1,500 words</i>) in the form of small writing projects in a variety of different styles (and on a range of different musical topics). Submission of successive drafts and a critical reflection of 	30%
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	<table border="1" data-bbox="418 138 1162 449"> <tr> <td data-bbox="418 138 987 201">the progress of the projects through successive drafts via a video discussion.</td> <td data-bbox="987 138 1162 201"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="418 201 987 449"> Final assessment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Final written project (3,000 – 3,500 words) on a topic of the student’s own choosing, submitted as a collection of drafts with revisions and a final version. Critical reflection on the progress of the proejet through successive drafts via a video discussion. </td> <td data-bbox="987 201 1162 449">70%</td> </tr> </table> <p data-bbox="418 453 540 478">Formative:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="418 478 1162 543"> <tr> <td data-bbox="418 478 987 510">Writing Assignment 1</td> <td data-bbox="987 478 1162 510">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="418 510 987 543">Writing Assignment 2</td> <td data-bbox="987 510 1162 543">0</td> </tr> </table> <p data-bbox="418 548 1192 573">The formative assessments prepare students for both summative assessments.</p> <p data-bbox="418 611 1040 636">Learning Outcomes 1 & 3 are assessed in the first assessment.</p> <p data-bbox="418 640 1081 665">Learning Outcomes 2,3,4 & 5 are assessed in the final assessment.</p> <p data-bbox="418 674 1040 699">Students are required to resit failed assessments in this course.</p>	the progress of the projects through successive drafts via a video discussion.		Final assessment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Final written project (3,000 – 3,500 words) on a topic of the student’s own choosing, submitted as a collection of drafts with revisions and a final version. Critical reflection on the progress of the proejet through successive drafts via a video discussion. 	70%	Writing Assignment 1	0	Writing Assignment 2	0
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<p data-bbox="131 737 289 793">INDICATIVE READING:</p>	<p data-bbox="418 737 688 762">REQUIRED READING:</p> <p data-bbox="418 766 1377 823">Clayton, Martin, Herbert, Trevor & Middleton, Richard (ed.), <i>The Cultural Study of Music: A Critical Introduction</i>, Taylor & Francis, 2011.</p> <p data-bbox="418 854 760 879">RECOMMENDED READING:</p> <p data-bbox="418 884 1252 909">Beard, David & Gloag, Kenneth, <i>Musicology: The Key Concepts</i>, Routledge, 2016.</p> <p data-bbox="418 913 1377 970">Herbert, Trevor, <i>Music in Words: A Guide to Researching and Writing about Music</i>, ABRSM, 2014.</p> <p data-bbox="418 974 1003 999">Ross, Alex, <i>Listen To This</i>, Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2015.</p>								
<p data-bbox="131 1031 289 1087">INDICATIVE MATERIAL:</p> <p data-bbox="131 1092 386 1148"><i>(e.g. audio visual, digital material, etc.)</i></p>	<p data-bbox="418 1031 708 1056">REQUIRED MATERIAL:</p> <p data-bbox="418 1060 1377 1209">Students will be directed towards a wide-range of text examples from the online music reviews and culture section of The Guardian newspaper (www.newsunlimited.co.uk), academic articles accessed from the ACG library database and a range of academic music books in the ACG library. The focus will be on reading and evaluating a range of different approaches and writing styles.</p>								
<p data-bbox="131 1241 367 1297">COMMUNICATION REQUIREMENTS:</p>	<p data-bbox="418 1241 1377 1329">Students will be expected to make use of a learning management system (Blackboard) and have an active ACG email account. All written work should follow current MLA standards for formatting, style and citation.</p>								
<p data-bbox="131 1367 350 1423">SOFTWARE REQUIREMENTS:</p>	<p data-bbox="418 1367 1377 1482">Students will need to use Microsoft Word or Open Office for word processing and submission of written work. They will also need a functioning ACG student account and internet connection for access to online music databases (available on campus and at home through the ACG library) and newspaper websites.</p>								
<p data-bbox="131 1514 378 1539">WWW RESOURCES:</p>	<p data-bbox="418 1514 1377 1570">The course will use subscription services that are freely available to students both on campus and at home via their ACG student account. An indicative guide at the time of writing would be:</p> <ul data-bbox="464 1575 1170 1755" style="list-style-type: none"> • The New Grove Dictionary (www.oxfordmusiconline.com) • International Repertory of Music Literature (www.rilm.org) • JSTORE (www.jstore.org) • Project MUSE (muse.jhu.edu) • MLA Style Center (style.mla.org) • The Lilian Voudouri Music Library of Greece (www.mmb.org.gr) 								
<p data-bbox="131 1787 289 1843">INDICATIVE CONTENT:</p>	<p data-bbox="418 1787 548 1812">Musicology:</p> <ul data-bbox="464 1816 1295 1934" style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to the different fields and approaches within musicology • Overview of historical and contemporary theories and methodologies • Critical reading, comparison and analysis of a range of different musicology texts • The position of music studies within the digital humanities 								

Research Resources, Tools and Processes:

- Introduction to database and electronic resources for music study
- Navigating resources in order to conduct research
- Reading, summarizing, analyzing and synthesizing research sources
- Identifying the relevance of research materials and identifying relationships between them and organizing them in support of an argument
- Creating a bibliography
- Practicing recursive research process skills

Writing a Research Essay

- Identifying and focusing a research topic, developing a research question
- Formulating thesis statements and abstracts
- Developing an argument based on research readings
- Practicing recursive research, writing and drafting skills
- Understanding and practicing the ethical use of intellectual property